Subject: Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools Program Update #2

Date: March 5, 2021

From: EANS email account

Greetings Wisconsin Private Schools and Interested Parties,

Last week, we shared initial information regarding the federal Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) program, including <u>initial allocation estimates</u>. This week, we provide some additional information about the program, with particular focus on the application process and some updates and considerations for budgeting and reimbursement. We thank the private school stakeholders who have informed our work.

EANS Application

The EANS Application will be open on March 12th through April 12th. Your school will use this application to confirm your eligibility for the EANS program and confirm or provide data that will be used to finalize allocations. The application will require basic information and assurances and will include pre-populated information for each non-public school based on the school's completed 2020-21 PI-1207. Detailed budgeting and school verification of intended EANS funds use will be managed through a separate process (see **New Eans Funds Administrator** below).

We do have an important update to share: the EANS application will be available through a simple survey format; DPI has decided *not* to use WISEgrants for the application. This means that you will not need to log in to the application. (You do not need a WAMS ID.) Our hope is that this greatly simplifies the application process.

In order for the application to pre-populate, we will need to send an email to the point of contact for each school and this individual will be able to complete the application. Our plan is for these emails to go out on Friday, March 12th.

If you have any questions about the application process, please email **EANS@dpi.wi.gov**.

<u>Updates and Considerations for Budgeting and Reimbursement</u>

We have received some questions this week about allowable reimbursements. You can find the list of allowable reimbursements on the <u>DPI EANS webpage</u>.

As a reminder, in last week's email we explained that schools may seek reimbursement for allowable costs the school incurred on or after March 13, 2020 and may also budget for allowable costs they plan to incur and seek reimbursement for in the future. In addition to the reimbursement model, the school also has the option to budget for future requested services or assistance. We also explained last week that an invoice and proof of payment will be required to submit a claim for a reimbursement, and the title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with EANS funds, including those that are reimbursed, must be in a public agency.

New EANS Funds Administrator

DPI is happy to announce that we will be partnering with the CESA (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) Statewide Network to administer EANS. Wisconsin has 12 CESAs and CESA 6 will be the point of contact for this work. CESA 6 has much experience with private schools through its work providing access to the Forward Exam.

This has two implications for your school:

- 1. You will have a single point of contact for selection of goods and services, budgeting, and reimbursement.
- 2. You will be able to select from a catalogue of allowable goods and services provided directly by your region's CESA, or to contract with a different 3rd party vendor.

Again, CESA 6 will facilitate your school's reimbursement for allowable costs incurred on or after March 13th, 2020, as well as budgeting and eventual reimbursement for costs you will incur for future services or assistance.

Our goal - and the goal of the CESA Statewide Network (CSN) - is to make this process as streamlined and supportive as possible for you. You can expect further information to come directly from CESA 6 regarding technical assistance following the application process. Specifically, the CSN anticipates hosting statewide webinars to inform your planning starting on Monday, March 15th, so please watch for additional communications from CESA.

Lastly, regarding timelines: we ended last week's email with a note about the requirement to obligate funds no later than August 10th, 2021. We are happy to share that DPI will meet that requirement through our partnership with CESA 6; private schools do not have to satisfy this requirement. In other words, you do not need to worry about an August 10th deadline to obligate funds.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have questions about anything in this email, please reply to this <u>EANS@dpi.wi.gov</u> email address. DPI staff are monitoring the account so you can get a prompt response.

Finally, for additional information, you may visit DPI's <u>Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools</u> webpage and the <u>U.S. Department of Education's Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools</u> webpage.

Thank you,

Laura

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